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Intelligence Study Center

Notes on People

Press Given a Low I.Q.

After years of taking it on the chin from the press, the American intelligence community, at least as represented by the National Intelligence Study Center, offered prizes for "intelligent writing on intelligence."

But the judges, including some former Central Intelligence Agency officers, concluded that there was nothing on the subject in the newspapers last year to merit a prize, so awards were made to two books and a magazine article.

Ray Cline, a former C.I.A. deputy director who conceived the prizes, and the study center, which awards them, said "the newspaper stories just didn't meet our standards."

So \$500 went to Joseph E. Persico, author of "Piercing the Reich," and Allen Weinstein, author of "Perjury: The Hiss-Chambers Case." The \$500 magazine article award went to Richard K. Betts, for "Why Intelligence Failures Are Inevitable," in World Politics magazine.